

GLOBE

September/October 1999

Serving the military and civilian community for the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center and the Presidio of Monterey

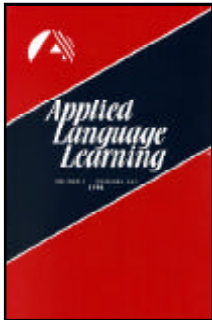
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Debbie Hobson unveils a plaque dedicated to her husband during a dedication ceremony of the Hobson Student Activities Center. Photo by Jim Villarreal



Col. Daniel Devlin

Working hard, playing hard, - as a team

Attending a DLIFLC graduation ceremony a few weeks ago served to remind me that our students and faculty often achieve stellar results under circumstances that are less than ideal.

The 23 graduates in the class had completed the 47-week Persian-Farsi Basic Course. I was honored to congratulate them and their six-member teaching team for helping to boost the statistics of DLIFLC graduates' academic success.

In the terms of the Institute, this was a class that "graduate 100 percent 2-2-2," meaning that each student in the class, without exception, attained at least Level 2 proficiency in listening, reading and speaking skills as measured at the end of course by the Defense Language Proficiency Test and oral interview.

From DoD, that's the stated goal Institute-wide, in all our language programs in all our schools. This is not an easy goal, but DLIFLC is closing in on it, with more graduates attaining 2-2-2 proficiency than ever before. The goal is pursued earnestly because units in the field tell us they need

linguists trained to no less than 2-2-2 proficiency, with more at the 3,3,3, level. We are reaching these levels.

In the Persian-Farsi class to which I refer, 87 percent of the graduates scored a 2+ or higher in listening skill and 35 percent made it to level 3.

In reading, 91 percent attained level 2+ or higher and 78 percent attained level 3.

In speaking, 30.5 percent attained level 2+ or higher and one student attained level 3 - in speaking from the basic course!

That student, by the way, attained level 3 in each of the three skills, or "3-3-3," as we say.

Six of the 23 graduated with grade point averages of 3.6 or higher.

That this high-achieving class was not made up of homogeneous types. The students were in many ways strikingly dissimilar. The class was comprised of members of three U.S. military services, and two foreign students (petty officers of Great Britain's Royal Navy). The students' military ranks varied from private to warrant officer.

During the course, serious illness sidelined two of their instructors for extended lengths of time and it became necessary for four instructors to put in additional hours to cover for their colleagues.

Circumstances such as these might be viewed as impediments to progress. If so, this class and their instructors overcame them admirably.

These students and their instructors formed a bond early in the course with the success of everyone their primary goal. Students helped each other, instructors helped each other, and both worked in close cooperation.

Although the students spent long hours of study, I learned that they also enjoyed recreational activities together and achieved an impressive record of volunteer service to the local community.

In other words, this class worked hard and played hard. If it were necessary to state a formula for successful learning and teaching at DLIFLC, I think I would start with those words and add that the greatest success comes through cooperative effort and teamwork of every member of the class and instructional team. Congratulations!



A basic Persian-Farsi course student searches a computer CD-ROM for ways to improve her pronunciation and understanding of her target language. Computer labs supplement classroom instruction in most schools at the DLIFLC. (Photo by Bob Britton)

Smith takes over command of the 311th Training Squadron

Lt. Col. Patrick L. Smith is the Commander of the 311th Training Squadron, Calif. He is responsible to the 17th Training Group Commander, Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas for the Air Force orientation, motivation, physical and military training of approximately 1,000 Air Force students.

Smith entered the Air Force in 1980 through the ROTC at The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina. Before his assignment to the 311th Training Squadron, he served as the Assistant Air Attaché to Italy.

Smith began his military career in 1981 as flight commander for the 6917th Electronic Security Group, San Vito Dei Normandy Air Station, Italy. He went from his first tour in Italy to the Electronic Security Command's Alert Center as a staff duty officer at Kelly Air Force Base. During his second year at Kelly he was named assistant chief of the Operations Training Division for the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations.

From 1984 to 1987, he was the operations branch chief for the 6990th Electronic Security Group at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. He was then selected to be an intern at the National Security Agency's Junior Officer Cryptologic Career Program at Fort Meade, Md. from 1987 to 1990.

His next field assignment took him to Howard Air Force Base, Panama as the operations officer for the 6933rd Electronic Security Squadron and the Consolidated Mission Operations Center. He served there for three years until being selected to command Detachment 7, 693rd Intelligence Wing at Hurlburt Field, Florida. He remained at Hurlburt until 1995, serving also as the operations officer for the 25th Intelligence Squadron there.

In four consecutive months of 1994, he deployed as operations officer for the 6975th Intelligence Squadron at Riyadh Air Base, Royal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and as intelligence liaison officer to the U.S. State Department's Presidential Security Advisory Unit in Haiti.

Smith had a year and a half of attaché training in Washington, D.C. before becoming the Assistant Air Force Attaché to Italy from April 1996 to June 1999. From Italy he deployed as Defense and Air Attaché to Albania during their attempted coup.

Lt. Col. Smith received a master's degree from Loyola College in Baltimore, Md. in 1990. He is a graduate of the Squadron Officers School and the Air War College Seminar.

Smith's decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Air Force Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Out-



Lt. Col. Patrick L. Smith

standing Unit Award with one silver and one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Southeast Asia Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Longevity Service Award with three oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Lt. Col. Smith wears the Senior Non-Rated Aircrew Wings, the Master Intelligence Badge, and has been awarded the U.S. Army Air Assault Badge.

He is a resident of Florida while his wife, Michele, is a California native. They have two daughters, Erica and Chelsea.



DLIFLC memorializes recreation center, honors former Arabic student

Story and photos by Bob Britton
Staff Writer

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center memorialized its recreation center as the Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hobson II Student Activities Center Aug. 5. Hobson, an Arabic Basic Course student from June 1993 to August 1994, died in the terrorist attack at the American Embassy, Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 7, 1998.

Hobson's wife, Debbie, and her two daughters, 4-year-old Meghan and 4-month-old Abigale; and his parents, Bonnie and Kenneth Hobson Sr., attended the dedication ceremony.

"Today we are extremely proud and honored to have the members of the Hobson and Murchison families and their friends with us for this important dedication ceremony of the Staff Sergeant Kenneth R. Hobson II Student Activities Center," said Col. Daniel Devlin, DLIFLC commandant and commander of DLIFLC and the Presidio of Monterey.

"The dedication today places a standard of commitment for current and future DLI students to attain," Devlin said. "Staff Sergeant Ken Hobson was a great soldier and linguist in every sense of the words that we use to guide us: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. This student activities center will reflect those qualities and connect them to Staff Sergeant Hobson for thousands of students yet to arrive."

Then Devlin told the audience how Maj. Natalie Lee, a former company commander of Company B, 229th Military Intelligence Battalion, informed him by e-mail within hours of the tragedy. Lee, now stationed in Germany, commanded the DLIFLC unit when Sgt. Ken Hobson and Spc. Deborah Murchison were Arabic Basic Course students where they met and later married.

Lee's e-mail mentioned Hobson as an accomplished artist who painted two murals at Combs Hall Dining Facility. She wanted to know if the murals could be memorialized in his honor. If that wasn't possible, then she asked to nominate him for a building memorial.

"He was a superb soldier, and his death was a great loss to his family and to the United States Army," the e-mail said.

Devlin reacted immediately on Lee's request for a memorial named after Hobson. He found the two murals had been painted over when Combs Hall was renovated, but he started the ball rolling with the memorialization committee.

"We immediately tasked our memorialization committee to determine an appropriate building that could be dedicated to the memory of Staff Sergeant Ken Hobson's sacrifice to his country," said Devlin. "As we learned about Staff Sergeant Hobson's artistic abilities, his volunteer work, his genuine caring for his fellow soldiers, his athletic contributions here at the Presidio of Monterey and his constant support to everyone around him and to his community, the picture quickly cleared for us.

"Our intent to rebuild the unnamed recreation center into a



(Left to right) Col. Daniel Devlin, DLIFLC commandant and commander of DLIFLC and the Presidio of Monterey; Robert Emanuel, director of Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Meghan Hobson; Debbie Hobson; and Col. Gerald York, director of Human Intelligence Services, Defense Intelligence Agency, officially cut the ribbon opening the Staff Sgt. Kenneth R. Hobson II Student Activities Center on the Presidio of Monterey Aug. 5.

student activities center, here in the center of our community support system, clearly fit a role worthy of carrying Staff Sergeant Hobson's name," said Devlin.

A week before the ceremony, Lee informed Devlin she would be unable to attend, but wanted to express her feelings in a letter.

"Please tell Debbie Hobson and Staff Sergeant Hobson's parents that it was my great desire to be there," the letter said. "They were both great students and super soldiers. I was privileged to have served with both of them. I hope that soldiers participating in the ceremony and everyone who will use the Hobson Student Activities Center will understand how precious our moments together are, and how important the job they're in Monterey learning to do really is.

"After all, this dedication is for a soldier who walked the same steps at DLI no more than five years ago," the letter continued. "Staff Sergeant Hobson was a soldier in the prime of his life and the threshold of his career when he departed the school in Monterey. Much like those who honor him this week, he went on to soldier proudly and with honor, and made the greatest sacrifice

that a soldier could make for his country. He truly is a soldier, a man worth emulating, and I hope that you can express to his family, for me, how proud I am to have known him and to have been his company commander at the Defense Language Institute.”

Before the ceremony began, Debbie mentioned how honored she was to have a building named after her husband. In fact, she said that he dreamed of having a building named after him sometime in the future.

“This memorialization today will help me and my family continue his memory and the things we shared,” said Debbie. “Ken, our daughter, Meghan, and I were stationed in Kenya together when he was killed.”

Devlin mentioned that after their Arabic graduation, both Debbie and Ken went on to a military intelligence assignment at Fort Gordon, Ga. She left military service after their first daughter, Meghan, was born there and went to Kenya with her husband.

“When the tragic embassy bombing occurred, Debbie reacted immediately, leaving her daughter with a close neighbor. Then she packed blankets and medical supplies in her car and left for the embassy,” said Devlin. “Here the story varies. Debbie claims only that she needed to know the status of her husband. Voices from the scene tell a different story completely. They tell the story of an intense woman who went to work helping others. My belief is that she also put her training as a soldier to work when she knew she could assist, even after she learned Ken had died. DIA reports reflect that same information. Days after this tragedy, she learned that she was expecting their second daughter, Abigale, now 4 months old and with us today. Debbie is a courageous American woman who absolutely displayed true grit, and we are extremely proud of her. We’re very happy that she is with us today.”

When Debbie spoke to the attendees, she mentioned Ken’s love for the outdoors and his difficulties learning the Arabic language.

“This is a fitting building to be dedicated to Ken,” said Debbie. “He really enjoyed the outdoors. When he came here to study Arabic, one of the first things he said was, ‘I’m here in California, and this is a 63-week vacation, and I might learn a little bit of Arabic.’ I’m sure he would want everybody to know he was intense about the outdoors, and he wasn’t so intense about languages. His example is that you need to temper this intense environment with some sort of activities like this. I hope you students take advantage of this modern facility. I’ve been there, I’ve stood there in formation at attention for many different things, and I’m honored that you are here for my husband.

“Ken would say that I was a better Arabic student than he was,” Debbie said. “He didn’t have an affinity for the language or anything. He kind of struggled, and I helped him out with his studies. That’s how we got close in the first place. We were both in the same Arabic class.”

Col. Gerald York Sr., the chief of operations, Defense Human Intelligence Service, Directorate for Intelligence Operations, was another guest speaker. He’s an armor officer who spent most of his career in military intelligence assignments worldwide. Several years ago, he earned the Director of Central Intelligence Human Intelligence Collector of the Year award. During the Vietnam War, York graduated from the DLIFLC Vietnamese Basic Course and served a tour in the combat zone. He is also the grandson of Sgt. Alvin York, the World War I Medal of Honor recipient.

During the summer of 1996, York returned to the Presidio to dedicate the Sgt. Alvin York Language Learning Center in Company A, 229th Military Intelligence Battalion.

York mentioned his agency, located in Arlington, Va., is responsible for military personnel stationed at embassies worldwide. He oversees the operations of military attaches and support personnel in American embassies.

“We at the Defense Intelligence Agency lost a great soldier in Sergeant Hobson,” said York. “Virginia’s state motto is, ‘Virginia is for Lovers.’ I believe this motto is better suited to the Defense Language Institute. DLI is for lovers of languages, lovers of service to our country, and lovers of life.

This description certainly fit Staff Sergeant Ken Hobson, who loved life, who loved this place, and who died doing what he loved in the defense attaché system in Nairobi, Kenya.

“Staff Sgt. Hobson was a former student here at DLI, and learning Arabic was his objective,” York said. “He was not immune to the rugged beauty of Monterey, and he was not immune to the beauty of Debbie Murchison, a fellow Arabic student and military intelligence interrogator who later became his wife. Both of them were set for adventure, learning to speak a foreign language while preparing to live in a culture quite different from the one they were experiencing here. Pursuits of the mind were important, but so were the physical pursuits offered by the California coast.

“Last year at our worldwide defense attaché conference, Debbie gave a memorial address to our conference at the time,” York continued. “She talked of Ken’s love for Monterey and DLI. She said that if he could, Ken would be heaven’s parks and recreation director, and his territory would be these California hills patrolled in a 4 x 4, accompanied by his dogs and pulling duty here in this area. As close as we can come to this dream, it is probably dedicating a recreation center at this beloved spot in memory of a man who loved the service, of which this Institute so well prepared him.”

During his speech, York looked at the audience and saw the diversity of students present for the ceremony. He mentioned enlisted people learning skills to become future military linguists or interrogators in tactical units. He talked about noncommissioned officers becoming operational NCOs in overseas embassies, company grade officers preparing for foreign area officer careers, and field grade officers learning languages for defense attaché assignments.

Then he emphasized the continuous need for military linguists for worldwide assignments.

“You have learned languages spoken by almost everyone in the world and are bound for diverse assignments in all parts of the globe,” York said. “Today, more than ever, the nation’s military services need linguists. You see places that we are today where we did not always have troops – in places like Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Albania, Macedonia, Bosnia and Kosovo. All of these areas require linguistic support and expertise. Global engagement poses a challenge. Linguistic expertise is critical to the effectiveness of the mission.”

He also mentioned languages are combat multipliers, where linguists provide valuable information to either military or civilian decision-makers, and linguist skills help save soldiers’ lives on the battlefield.

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York stated the Defense HUMINT Service manages 118 defense attaché offices worldwide and 22 more facilities will be added within two years. Additional linguists from all ranks and services will be required to staff these overseas positions.

"Debbie and his parents, Bonnie and Ken Hobson Sr., are with us here today, along with the rest of the Hobson family," said York. "They can tell you Ken's and Debbie's fondest memories are from this place where they were offered the opportunity to grow professionally and personally in one of the most beautiful places in the world."

After the speeches, Debbie, Devlin, York and Bob Emanuel, the director of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate, unveiled a memorial plaque and cut the ribbon to officially open the Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hobson II Student Activities Center. The Edge Club staff provided food and refreshments.

After the ceremony, we talked with Staff Sgt. Steven Frelke, from Company A, 229th Military Intelligence Battalion. He is a recent graduate of the Intermediate Persian-Farsi Course and was the Hobsons' platoon and first sergeant when they were stationed at Fort Gordon.

"Today's memorialization ceremony was really touching," Frelke said. "When Debbie got up there to speak and said Ken was a great outdoorsman, but not the greatest Arabic linguist, it really kind of put everything in perspective. It gives the soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who will use this place a sense of belonging."

"Staff Sergeant Ken Hobson was a soldier's soldier. He was a real person and interested in life, other than being here in the language school," Frelke said. "I think that's really important for them as present day students to be able to come into the building and see that he was one of them. He's a good example of soldiers doing and achieving great things. He was a very good NCO, one of the best that we had."

At Fort Gordon, Frelke was the acting first sergeant of Alpha Company, 202nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 520th Military Intelligence Brigade. Both Hobsons were in Alpha Company, which later became Alpha and Charlie Companies. With the separation, Frelke became a platoon sergeant in Alpha Company and supervised Debbie, while Ken went to the newly formed Charlie Company.

"Debbie was an outstanding Arabic linguist, and Ken was a pretty good Arabic linguist, but not as good as his wife," Frelke

said. "Both were the best soldiers. You could always count on them to get anything done, and they didn't need supervision. Although Debbie was a specialist at the time, you could give her missions to accomplish, and she would get it done. Sergeant Hobson was the same way. He was one of those people or soldiers who had lots of initiative as a self-starter, and he was a good NCO and a good example for new soldiers coming into the unit."

Staff Sgt. Ken Hobson II was born in Placerville, Calif., and attended high school in Nevada, Mo., where he was involved in debate, junior ROTC and tennis.

He joined the Army in 1989 and graduated from Basic Combat Training and Combat Engineer training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Next came a combat engineer assignment to the 54th Engineer Battalion, in Wildflecken, Germany, with temporary duty in the Persian Gulf during the Persian Gulf War.

After this overseas service, Hobson went to the 325th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort

Campbell, Ky., from February 1992 to May 1993. Next came DLIFLC and the Arabic Basic Course, with follow-on interrogator and strategic briefer training at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Staff Sgt. Hobson then went to Fort Gordon, Ga. While stationed there, he volunteered for defense attaché training, where he graduated from DIA's Attaches Staff Operations Course. In April 1998, Hobson took his family to Nairobi, Kenya, where he served as the operations NCO with the U.S. Army Element Defense Attaché Office until his death last August. His promotion to staff sergeant



The Hobson Student Activities Center replaces the Presidio of Monterey Recreation Center. It was dedicated as the Staff Sgt. Kenneth R. Hobson II Student Activities Center Aug. 5. Hobson, an avid outdoorsman, artist and former DLIFLC Arabic student, was killed during the terrorist attack on the American Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, on Aug. 7, 1998.

was awarded posthumously.

His military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with bronze star, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Saudi Arabian-Kuwait Liberation Medal, and the Air Assault Badge.

Hobson Student Activities Center features the plaque in his honor and a photo display case with photos of his family and life. Other areas feature pool tables, a stage, darts, ping pong tables, some music rooms, and computer rooms where students can access the Internet and practice their language learning on computers as well as exchanging e-mail with friends and relatives.



Rochefort takes charge of NSGD

By Joseph Morgan
Staff Writer

Lt. Cmdr. Frank T. Rochefort succeeded Lt. Cmdr. Barry W. Phillips as officer in charge of the Naval Security Group Detachment Monterey in a change of command ceremony Aug. 6 at the Presidio.

The ceremony also marked Phillips' retirement from active duty in the Navy after 25 years and the awarding to Phillips of the Navy's Meritorious Service Medal.

"He provided a command climate which fostered significant improvements in readiness, language training, professional development and command programs," stated the accompanying citation.

"I know that you'll do equally as well in whatever you're going to do as you've done here at the Naval Security Group," said Rear Adm. Robert C. Chaplin, Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, who attended the ceremony as guest speaker.

Phillips also received a certificate of appreciation signed by President Bill Clinton.

"I extend to you my personal thanks and the sincere appreciation of our nation for your honorable service," Clinton wrote.



Lt. Cmdr. Barry W. Phillips (left) is congratulated on his retirement from the Navy by Rear Adm. Robert C. Chaplin, superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School.



Lt. Cmdr. Frank T. Rochefort (right), newly assigned NSGD Officer in Charge, is welcomed to the detachment by Capt. Andrew M. Singer, NSGD Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Lt. Cmdr. Barry W. Phillips, departing NSGD officer in charge. Photos by Jim Villarreal

"You helped to maintain the security of the United States of America with a devotion to duty that is in keeping with the proud traditions of our armed forces."

In accepting command of the NSGD, Rochefort said the detachment exists primarily to prepare sailors for duties as cryptolinguists and for other foreign-language assignments.

"We will accomplish these responsibilities as smartly as possible," he said, "We have a mission, we have the will and we have the resources."

Phillips became NSGD Officer in Charge in November 1996. He had served with the detachment as assistant officer in charge for the previous 18 months.

Phillips' other awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Navy Good Conduct Medal. He is married to the former Kimberly Carson.

Rochefort has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards) and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards). He is married to Lt. Cmdr. Rebecca Rochefort, Supply Corps, U.S. Naval Reserve. They have two sons, Mark Vincent (age 3) and Garrett Fox (age 1).

Phillips and Rochefort are respectively the 11th and 12th NSGD officers in charge since the detachment was commissioned in February 1976.

Phillips and his wife plan to reside in the Monterey area.



Nisei linguists serve with 25th Inf. Div. in World War II

By Shig Kihara

Original Fourth Army Military Intelligence School teacher

(Editor's note: Shig Kihara was one of the initial Japanese language instructors at the Fourth Army Military Intelligence School, Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco, Calif., that started in November 1941. The MIS school relocated in the spring of 1942 to Camp Savage, Minn., where it became the Military Intelligence Service Language School, and later moved to Fort Snelling, Minn., in 1944. Kihara taught at both places. The MISLS moved again in 1946 to the Presidio of Monterey and became the Army Language School, the forerunner of today's Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center. Kihara taught for several more years at the Presidio of Monterey before his retirement. He also played a key role in establishing the permanent Yankee Samurai Exhibit located in Nakamura Hall. Kihara lives in the local area.)

When World War II started, the United States was badly unprepared. One year later in December 1942, the military forces of the country were still disorganized and confused in the worldwide theater of war.

When the first Japanese American or Nisei graduates of the Fourth Army Military Intelligence School, Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco, went into the field in Alaska, Australia and the South Pacific in June 1942, field commanders didn't know what to do with them.

Capt. John Burden, one of the two Caucasian graduates of the first class was assigned to the 37th Ohio Division in Suva, Fiji Islands, but there was little intelligence to do. Adm. Chester Nimitz, passing through Suva, told Col. Sears, the 37th's G-2 officer, that the troops fighting in Guadalcanal were screaming for Japanese linguists. Sears told Nimitz about Burden and introduced him to Nimitz, who immediately ordered him to Guadalcanal. When Burden arrived in Guadalcanal in October 1942, he reported to Gen. James Lawton Collins, the commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division.

In the battle for Henderson Field at Guadalcanal, Burden, the two Kubo brothers — Takashi and Tadao — and Tateshi Miyazaki, found driving a jeep on Tonga, interrogated Japanese prisoners of war, translated captured documents and devised psychological warfare techniques. These actions opened up Collins' eyes to the great value of Military Intelligence Service Nisei in the war against Japan.

After the battles of New Georgia and Vella Lavella in the Solomon Islands, Burden was called to the Pentagon to personally report on the role and future use of MIS Nisei in the Pacific War. Very soon, the generals and admirals throughout the Pacific and Asia began to clamor for MIS Nisei. The Nisei served in every theater, in every campaign and in every major battle of the Pacific and Asia.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur wrote that, "Never in military history did an Army know so much in detail about the enemy prior to actual engagement." His G-2, Gen. Charles Willoughby, stated that these Nisei shortened the Pacific War by two years and saved thousands and thousands of casualties.

The historic connection between Gen. Collins and the MIS Nisei did not end with Guadalcanal and the Solomons. The general left the 25th Infantry Division and eventually became the Army Chief of Staff during the Korean War.

His nephew of the same name, Col. James Lawton Collins, became commandant of the Army Language School, Presidio of Monterey, in the 1960s. His next assignment was to organize the Defense Language Institute in Washington, D.C., and he became its first director in 1963.

In 1980, the nephew Collins, now general and chief of Military History, authorized the creation of the Japanese internment and 442nd Regimental Combat Team "Go for Broke" exhibit at the Sixth Army Museum at the Presidio of San Francisco. The MIS Yankee Samurai exhibit quickly followed this.

The exhibits were shown on tour to record-breaking crowds in Los Angeles, the Capitol Building in Sacramento, Calif., the



Shig Kihara points to photo of himself as one of the initial Japanese language instructors at the Fourth Army Military Intelligence School, Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco, Calif., at the Yankee Samurai exhibit in Nakamura Hall at the Presidio of Monterey. Photo by Petty officer 1st Class T.E. "Scoop" Hansen

USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; the Nimitz Memorial in Fredricksburg, Texas; the MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Va., and at other locations.

The Smithsonian Institution's staff viewed the Los Angeles showing and asked for it in 1984, but Dr. Roger Kennedy of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian changed his mind. He wanted it for the 200th Anniversary of the United States Constitution in 1987.

In the face of spirited opposition from Congress, the Washington press, veterans and the general public, "How can you celebrate the Constitution by exhibiting a shameful failure?" Kennedy persisted. The exhibit opened under the title, "For a More Perfect Union," in October 1987. The exhibit is still there, having been viewed by millions of visitors, telling the story of injustice to Japanese Americans in 1942 and the loyalty, courage

and sacrifice of the 442nd RCT and MIS to defend America and the Constitution.

A full Yankee Samurai exhibit is on permanent display in Nakamura Hall at the Presidio.

Thank you Gen. James Lawton Collins, commander of the 25th Infantry Division and Army chief of staff. And thank you nephew, Gen. James Lawton Collins, commandant of ALS, director of DLI Washington, and chief of Military History.



Operation Lions Roar provides realistic scenario

By 1st Lt. D. Paul Clapham

Executive Officer, Company C,
229th Military Intelligence Battalion

More than 75 hard-charging soldiers, Marines and civilian instructors from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center participated in Operation Lions Roar, a realistic language training exercise June 26. Charlie Company, 229th Military Intelligence Battalion, hosted the training at the Military Operations in an Urban Terrain site on the Presidio of Monterey Annex. LTXs test military linguists in technical language skills as well as tactical military leadership skills in an urban environment.

Advanced language class students and civilian language instructors played the volunteer roles of refugees and opposing forces. The exercise's intent was to use target languages under stressful situations to provide trainees the taste of what it's like in the real world. Basic linguist tasks were not only to communicate using the different target languages, but also to collect valuable intelligence information for the commander.

Arabic, Chinese-Mandarin, Persian-Farsi and Russian target languages were used during the LTX. Squads with mixed linguists used their languages to conduct several missions.

These included triaging casualties, providing first aid, collecting intelligence, translating documents and audio tapes, interviewing refugees, practicing squad patrols and hostage negotiations, searching for weapons caches, setting up perimeter observation points and conducting air reconnaissance.

The main scenario is a United Nations force where Charlie Company, with its attachments, has been assigned to augment a U.N. element reinforcing a safe haven. Our primary mission is to augment the U.N. forces with linguistic support.

During the exercise, one combat lane featured a simulated market area with casualties from incoming artillery shells. In this scenario, squad members assessed the triage situation, questioned civilian casualties in the different languages, treated the wounded and evacuated them to a safer place for command and

control.

Another exercise lane allowed soldiers to demonstrate their knowledge of combat readiness skills, using such techniques as the buddy-rush technique and the individual movement techniques.

A third lane allowed soldiers and Marines to react under direct enemy fire. Then the patrol got involved with a hostage situation and negotiations, freeing a hostage, capturing the terrorists and finding a weapons cache.

Operation Lions Roar provided soldiers and Marines with opportunities to learn the importance of collecting intelligence information from verbal, written documents and transcribed audiotapes in different languages. This exercise provided a real world scenario for soldiers and Marines to prepare for follow on assignments. But best of all, it provided a real motivation to excel in the classroom.

